



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: A.S. Hoffman et al.

Attorney Docket No.: UWOTL118949

Application No.: 09/226,044

Group Art Unit: 1615

Filed: January 5, 1999

Examiner: G. Kishore

Title: ENHANCED TRANSPORT USING MEMBRANE DISRUPTIVE AGENTS

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AMENDMENT A

Seattle, Washington 98101

March 11, 2003

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

In response to the Office Action mailed October 16, 2002 (Paper No. 26), please amend the above-identified patent application as indicated below. Pursuant to the request for extension of time enclosed herewith, the time period for response has been extended two (2) months, to expire March 16, 2002.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 34 and 74 as follows, cancel Claims 38, 40, 53, 54, 78, 80, and 91-100, and add new claims 101 and 102 as shown below:

34. (Amended) A method for delivering a therapeutic or diagnostic agent to a cell, comprising:

(a) treating a cell with a combination of a transport agent and a therapeutic or diagnostic agent, wherein the combination is taken into the cell by endocytosis to provide an endosome having an endosomal membrane and containing the combination, wherein the transport agent is effective in disrupting the endosomal membrane, and wherein the transport agent comprises a polycarboxylic acid polymer that is hydrophilic at about pH 7.4 and hydrophobic at pH from about 5.1 to about 5.5; and

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